

In re Patent Application of:

ENRIQUEZ ET AL

Serial No. 10/091976

Filing Date: MARCH 6, 2002

REMARKS

A typographical error has been corrected in the specification in accordance with applicants' review of the specification as requested in item 1 on page 2 of the Office Action. In addition, the claims have been amended to more concisely define applicants' invention in a manner which is believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited patent to Caine et al 6,735,302. Reconsideration of this application in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

As is described in the present specification, applicants' invention is directed to a new and improved subscriber line interface circuit (SLIC) which includes a high voltage section that has no intelligence of its own, and an associated mixed signal section which includes both a DSP codec and supervisory microcontroller which monitor and supply both analog and digital signals to the high voltage section. The high voltage section identified by reference numeral 100 and the mixed signal section identified by reference numeral 200 together form the SLIC.

In contrast thereto, in the SLIC architecture described in the patent to Caine et al 6,735,302, the SLIC itself is the block 100 whereas the associated codec is the block 102. Caine et al contain no mixed signal section which in cooperation with a high voltage analog section provides the complete functionality of the SLIC. Instead, as shown, for example, in Figure 3 of the drawings of the patent to Caine et al, the codec supplies digital control signals to the SLIC 202 and interfaces transmit and receive signals to the SLIC by way of the SLIC interface circuit 200.

In re Patent Application of:

ENRIQUEZ ET AL

Serial No. 10/091976

Filing Date: MARCH 6, 2002

In an effort to more clearly demarcate the differences between the patent to Caine et al and applicants' claimed invention, each of the claims has been amended to recite the fact that the high voltage section is operative to drive the tip and ring conductors of a respective subscriber loop pair in accordance with analog input and analog control signals supplied thereto. These signals are supplied from the low voltage digitally programmable mixed analog and digital signal generation and digital signal processing section. What results from these two sections is the fact that they form together a subscriber line interface circuit as described and claimed in the present application.

The codec 102 of Caine et al is not a low voltage digitally programmable mixed analog and digital signal generation and digital signal processing section as defined in applicants' claims. Nor does it supply analog input and analog control signals to a high voltage analog section. The codec 102 supplies digital signals at selective programming terminals only.

It is believed that the more concise definition of applicants' invention in the manner described above clearly and patentably distinguishes the architecture of the present invention with respect to the codec and SLIC assembly architecture of the patent to Caine et al.

Several of the low voltage analog signals that are supplied by the mixed analog and digital signal generation and processing section of the present invention are the signals VRX, AFM, TVC and RVC which feed the receiver input unit 110 shown in greater detail in Figure 2. In response to these signals, respective sets of analog currents are supplied to the tip and ring amplifiers for controlling the operation of the same. No such

In re Patent Application of:
ENRIQUEZ ET AL
Serial No. 10/091976
Filing Date: MARCH 6, 2002

analog signal generation is contemplated in the architecture of Caine et al.

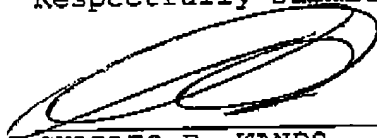
It is respectfully submitted that upon reconsideration, it will be realized that the definition of applicants' invention and the amended claims patentably distinguishes the present invention with respect to the patent to Caine et al, so that the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Favorable reconsideration of this application and a Notice of Allowability of Claims 1-35 are respectfully requested.

Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-0484 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



CHARLES E. WANDS
Reg. No. 25,649

Telephone: (321) 725-4760

Customer No.: 27975

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing correspondence has been forwarded via facsimile number 703-872-9306 to the COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, this 14 day of February 2005.

